

## REMARKS

The amendment to page 82, line 4 of the specification (i.e., amendment for changing "Examples 7 and 8 and Comparative Example 6" to --Example 7 and Comparative Examples 6 and 7--) is merely a correction of an inadvertent error. The gist of this amendment is to change original Example 8 to a Comparative Example. This amendment is explained below.

As seen from Table 3 appearing at page 83 of the specification, the asphalt composition produced in original Example 8 does not contain the essential component (III) (i.e., at least one vulcanizing agent selected from the group consisting of sulfur and a sulfur-containing compound) recited in claim 1 of the present application. Therefore, original Example 8 should be understood as a Comparative Example and, hence, has instantly been changed to new Comparative Example 6. In accordance with the change of original Example 8 to new Comparative Example 6, original Comparative Example 6 has been renumbered as new Comparative Example 7.

For the same reason as described above, Table 3 appearing at page 83 of the specification has also been amended to change "Example 8" and "Comparative Example 6" to --Comparative Example 6-- and --Comparative Example 7--, respectively.

The amendment to claim 4 has been made only for deleting multiple-multiple dependency expressions.

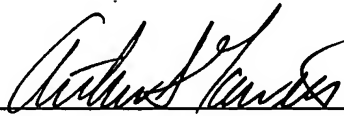
Examination of claims 1-5 is requested.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Preliminary  
Amendment, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: March 29, 2005

By:   
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Reg. No. 20,338

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